

What is claimed is:

1. A polyvinyl acetal having a degree of acetalization of from 45 to 80 mol%, which is obtained through acetalization of a polyvinyl alcohol that contains from 1 to 15 mol% of  $\alpha$ -olefin units and has a 1,2-glycol bond content of from 1 to 3 mol%, a degree of polymerization of from 100 to 2000 and a degree of hydrolysis of from 80.0 to 99.99 mol%.

2. The polyvinyl acetal as claimed in claim 1, wherein the  $\alpha$ -olefin units are ethylene units.

3. The polyvinyl acetal as claimed in claim 1, which is a polyvinyl butyral.

4. The polyvinyl acetal as claimed in claim 1, for which the polyvinyl alcohol satisfies the following formula (1):

$$-0.012 \times F_n + 1.24 \leq \text{content (mol\%)} \leq -0.022 \times F_n + 2.23 \quad (1)$$

wherein the content (mol%) means the 1,2-glycol bond content of PVA; and  $F_n$  means the  $\alpha$ -olefin unit content (mol%) of PVA.

5. The polyvinyl acetal as claimed in claim 1, for which the polyvinyl alcohol contains from 0.02 to 5 mol% of carboxylic acid and lactone ring.

6. The polyvinyl acetal as claimed in claim 5, for which the polyvinyl alcohol satisfies the following formula (2):

$$-1.95 \times 10^{-5} \times P + 0.045 \leq \text{content (mol\%)} \leq -1.38 \times 10^{-4} \times P + 0.91 \quad (2)$$

wherein the content (mol%) means the content of carboxylic acid

and lactone ring in PVA; and P indicates the viscosity-average degree of polymerization of PVA.

7. An interlayer film for laminated glass, which comprises, as the essential ingredient, a polyvinyl acetal of claim 1.

8. Laminated glass fabricated by the use of the interlayer film of claim 7.

9. A binder for ceramic forming, which comprises a polyvinyl acetal of claim 1.

10. A binder for ink or paint, which comprises a polyvinyl acetal of claim 1.

11. A thermally-developable photographic material, which comprises a polyvinyl acetal of claim 1.